



WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2010



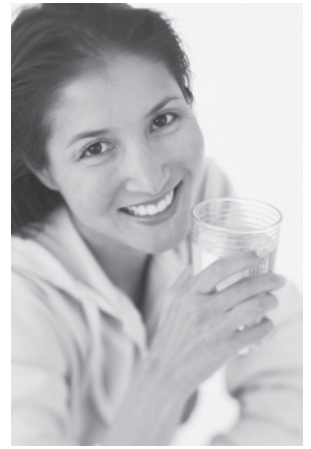
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Quality First

Once again we are proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2010. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with quality drinking water.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, we are always available to assist you. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.



For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Al Purvis, Chief Water Operator, at (352) 728-9845 or visit our Web site at www.leesburgflorida.gov.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city commission meetings and to voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet at 5 p.m. on the third floor of City Hall on the second and fourth Monday of each month. City Hall is located at 501 W. Meadow Street in Leesburg.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our source of supply for the City of Leesburg–Plantation water system is groundwater taken from the Floridan Aquifer within the Oklawaha watershed. We presently have three (3) deep wells in our system, located within the community. Chlorination in the gas form (Cl₂) is used for disinfection purposes. Plantation has 54,000 gallons of storage capacity and serves 2,855 meter connections, representing an estimated population of 5,139 customers.

To learn about your watershed on the Internet, go to the U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed Web site at www.epa.gov/surf.

Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

What's Your Water Footprint?

You may have some understanding about your carbon footprint, but how much do you know about your water footprint? The water footprint of an individual, community, or business is the total volume of freshwater that is used to produce the goods and services that are consumed by the individual or community or produced by the business. For example, eleven gallons of water are needed to irrigate and wash the fruit in one half-gallon container of orange juice. Thirty-seven gallons of water are used to grow, produce, package, and ship the beans in that morning cup of coffee. Two hundred and sixty-four gallons of water are required to produce one quart of milk, and 4,200 gallons of water are required to produce two pounds of beef.

According to the U.S. EPA, the average American uses about 100 gallons of water daily. In fact, in the developed world, one flush of a toilet uses as much water as the average person in the developing world allocates for an entire day's cooking, washing, cleaning, and drinking. The annual American per capita water footprint is about 8,000 cubic feet; twice the global per capita average. With water use increasing six-fold in the past century, our demands for freshwater are rapidly outstripping what the planet can replenish.

To check out your own water footprint, go to www.h2oconserve.org, or visit www.waterfootprint.org to see how the water footprints of other nations compare.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

Lead and Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhome) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a Web site (www.dep.state.fl.us) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Florida, including valuable information about our watershed.

Source Water Assessment

The most recent search of the data sources from 2009 indicated no potential sources of contamination. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program Web site at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

Water Treatment Process

Chlorine in gas form is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.)

Fact or Fiction

There is the same amount of water on Earth now as there was when the Earth was formed. (*Fact: The water that comes from your faucet could contain molecules that dinosaurs drank!*)

About half the water treated by public water systems is used for drinking and cooking. (*Fiction: Actually, the amount used for cooking and drinking is less than 1% of the total water produced!*)

A person can live about a month without food, but only about a week without water. (*Fact: Dehydration symptoms generally become noticeable after only 2% of one's normal water volume has been lost.*)

The first water pipes in the U.S. were made of cast iron. (*Fiction: The first water pipes were actually made of fire-charred bored logs.*)

The world's first municipal water filtration plant was opened in the United States. (*Fiction: The first plant was actually opened in Paisley, Scotland, in 1832.*)

A person must consume a half-gallon of water daily to live healthily. (*Fact: A person should drink at least 64 ounces, or 8 cups, of water each day.*)

One gallon of gasoline poured into a lake can contaminate approximately 750,000 gallons of water. (*Fact*)

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

PRIMARY REGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
Radioactive Contaminants ¹							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	6/2008	No	1.8	NA	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 [Combined Radium] (pCi/L)	6/2008	No	1.0	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	1/2008	No	1	NA	NA	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	1/2008	No	0.004	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	1/2008	No	0.12	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Lead [point of entry] (ppb)	1/2008	No	6	NA	NA	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Sodium (ppm)	1/2008	No	4.950	NA	NA	160	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil
Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products ²							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG OR [MRDLG]	MCL OR [MRDL]	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Chlorine (ppm)	1/2010–12/2010	No	1.70	1.08–2.25	[4]	[4.0]	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) [HAA5] (ppb)	7/2010	No	19.2	NA	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	7/2010	No	57.7	NA	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper (Tap water samples were collected from sites throughout the community)							
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	AL EXCEEDANCE (YES/NO)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	7/2008	No	1.19	2	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	7/2008	No	2.2	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

¹Results in the Level Detected column for radioactive contaminants, inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

²For chlorine, the level detected is the the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.

Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

IDSE (Initial Distribution System Evaluation): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection By-products Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).